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(c) In some cases, the posts were not filled up as they were not urgent requirements. In other cases, the posts were kept vacant for want of suitable technically qualified hands.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Sir, is it a fact that many people have been posted and they have resigned and gone out seeking employment in private firms?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I do not know whether they have gone out seeking employment in private firms. But they have resigned and left.

Scholarships

* 158 Q.—SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the State Government has been consulted by the Central Government in the award of scholarships to talented young persons in music, dance, drama and the fine arts for training in India during 1961–62?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : No, Sir.

House Rent Allowance

* 159 Q.—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to give House Rent Allowance to the teachers in the aided high schools in the City of Madras and other major towns; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) & (b) No, Sir.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : What is the reason for this unyielding policy of the Government in respect of this demand alone?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The reason is want of finance.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Even the lower division clerks in the City Corporation and local bodies are getting this house rent allowance. Is it justifiable to say that the teachers cannot get it now?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : No grant is given by Government to local bodies towards house rent allowance.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Is it not a reasonable demand of the teachers in Madras and major towns?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Not only this. So many other things are reasonable. But the question is whether it is practicable.

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MR. CHAIRMAN : As the hon. Member, Sri A. K. Thangavel Mudaliar, is not in his seat, the question and the answer thereto will be printed in the official report of the proceedings.

Industrial co-operative societies

* 160 Q.—SRI A. K. THANGAVEL MUDALIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to extend provident fund benefits to employees working in the industrial co-operative societies; and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) & (*b*) The Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952, is even at present applicable to establishments or factories of Industrial Co-operative Societies which are engaged in any of the Industries specified in Schedule I of the said Act and which belong to the class of establishments to which the Act has been extended under section 1 (3) (*b*) except :

(i) to the establishments registered under the Co-operative Societies Act, 1912 (2 of 1912) or under any other law for the time being in force in any State relating to Co-operative Societies employing less than 50 persons working without the aid of power; and

(ii) to all handloom factories organised as Industrial Co-operatives which have been exempted from the purview of the Act as a class, up to 31st December 1964.

Assembly constituencies

* 161 Q.—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to recommend to the Central Government to re-delimit the Assembly constituencies in view of the increased population; and

(*b*) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDAM : Sir, are the Government aware that some of the neighbouring States, having less population, have got a larger number of seats in the Assembly?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I am afraid the hon. Member has not understood how delimitation of constituencies is done. For every parliamentary seat, we have five seats in the Assembly. It is open to the States to have seven seats in the Assembly instead of five. Therefore, it is not according to population.